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In the proof sheet one entire line of MSS., was omitted and also all the interlined emendations.

Page 126 lines 7 and 8, omit striæ and all the words after it. A longer series shows this character to be fallacious.

Page 126 line 9 from bottom for testaceous read testaceous.

" 127 " 14 omit distinctly,

" 128 " 17 after ferruginous add, Head smooth, clypeus feebly emarginate at middle.

Page 130 last line, omit at base.

" 131 next to last line omit by and add a comma.

" 131 last line read comparatively and omit comma.

" 132 line 10 for within read within.

" 133 " 15 for margined read marginal.

#### Remarks on the Species of the Genus *ISOMALUS* Er. of the United States.

BY GEO. H. HORN, M. D.

In a pamphlet entitled "Notices Entomologiques." Mr. Albert Fauvel in an article entitled "Etudes sur les staphylinides de l'Amerique Centrale, principalement de Mexique," publishes an account of the species of *Isomalus*, of that region. As our own species are rather rare and it being impossible for me to furnish him with the necessary material for his systematic catalogue of the Staphylinidæ in general, I have thought it proper to review our four species and point out some variations exhibited by them from the present descriptions of the genus.

In the work above cited Fauvel makes the following remarks: "The species of *Isomalus* are remarkable for their extremely flattened form, indicating a priori their habit of living under bark and in the trunks of decayed trees. They are distinguished from the other Piestini by the following characters; body glabrous, smooth; head with lateral longitudinal groove; front mutic; mandibles prominent mutic; maxillary palpi with last joint somewhat shorter than the preceding; thorax not grooved, broadly sinuate behind; elytra without sutural striæ; legs mutic; abdomen strongly margined."

Our species all agree in being very much depressed, smooth and shining; thorax strongly narrowed at base and not longer than the head.

Two have a distinct sutural stria.....*nigrellus*, Lec. and *canadensis*, n. sp.

Two have no sutural stria. ....*pallidus*, Lec. and *fasciatus*, Lec.

By means of the groove at the side of the head they may be tabulated in the following manner;

Lateral groove above the eyes and extending slightly behind

- them.....**fasciatus**.  
 Lateral groove behind the eyes only, limited exteriorly by a  
 slight ridge.....**pallidus**.  
 Lateral groove represented by a slight fossa behind the eyes.....**nigrellus**.  
 Lateral groove entirely absent, no traces whatever.....**canadensis**.

It will thus be seen that those species with the sutural stria have the lateral stria of the head entirely absent.

The color of our species may be thus expressed.

- Pale rufo-testaceous, head somewhat darker.....**pallidus**.  
 Piceous black, elytra with broad testaceous band.....**fasciatus**.  
 Piceous; surface equally shining; thorax flat.....**canadensis**.  
 Black; thorax less shining, disc slightly concave.....**nigrellus**.

The epistome varies in our species,

- being rounded in front.....**canadensis**.  
 truncate.....**fasciatus**, and **pallidus**.  
 slightly emarginate.....**nigrellus**.

**I. pallidus**, Lec. New Species, p. 58.—Pale rufo-testaceous, shining. Head flat, very finely alutaceous and finely but distantly punctured, slightly darker in color than the elytra. Thorax triangular slightly broader than long, base less than half as wide as apex; apex truncate base rounded; anterior angles obtuse rounded; sides feebly rounded and with a slight sinuation behind the middle; anterior margin with a slight impression on each side; disc very faintly concave and with fine median line; surface finely alutaceous and sparsely punctured. Elytra as broad as thorax at apex, slightly broader behind, slightly longer than wide conjointly, surface very finely longitudinally strigose and sparsely punctulate. Abdomen finely alutaceous above and the segments on each side with four punctures, in pairs, forming a rhomb those nearer the anterior margin more internal. Body beneath similar in color and sculpture to upper surface. Legs slightly paler. Length .14 inch; 3.5 mm.

Occurs from New York to Washington, D. C., but rare.

**I. fasciatus**, Lec. New Species, p. 59.—Black, shining, elytra with broad yellow band not attaining the lateral margin. Head very finely alutaceous and very sparsely punctulate. Thorax triangular, as long as wide, base half as wide as apex; apex truncate, margin on each side with slight impression; base slightly rounded, sides feebly rounded and with slight sinuation at middle; surface flat, very finely alutaceous, sparsely punctulate and with finely impressed median line. Elytra finely longitudinally strigose and sparsely minutely punctulate; color black with broad yellow band wider externally, sides narrowly margined with black; elytra conjointly subquadrate. Abdomen finely alutaceous and with four punctures on each segment, two anterior and two posterior, the anterior more external. Body beneath similar to the upper surface. Legs ferruginous, knees paler. Length .10—.12 inch; 2.5—3 mm.

Occurs along the valley of the Gila River, Arizona, under cotton-wood bark; rather common.

The thorax is less transverse than the preceding species. The impression at the anterior margin contains a puncture.

**I. nigrellus**, Lec. New Species, p. 59.—Black, shining. Head finely alutaceous, vertex bifoveate and with a few punctures. Thorax longer than wide oval, apex truncate, base narrow rounded; sides moderately rounded narrowing only at basal third; apical margin on each side impressed, impression limited externally by a slight carina; disc on each side slightly longitudinally concave, middle slightly less concave and with the median line finely marked; surface slightly, more opaque than the elytra, finely alutaceous and very sparsely punctulate. Elytra longer than wide, finely alutaceous, sparsely punctulate, sutural stria entire. Abdomen very finely alutaceous, and with fine punctures as in *fasciatus*. Legs piceous, knees and apices of tibiae paler. Length .10 inch; 2.5 mm.

In this the thorax attains its greatest length, among our species.

Occurs in the Sacramento Valley south, under oak bark.

**I. canadensis**, n. sp.—Piceous shining, abdomen nearly black. Head alutaceous, vertex, bifoveate and punctured. Thorax oval as broad at apex as long, flat, finely alutaceous, sparsely punctulate, median line scarcely distinct: apex with slight impression on each side limited externally by a slight elevation; anterior angles obtusely rounded, sides broadly rounded and gradually narrowing to apex. Elytra one-fourth longer than wide, surface nearly smooth very indistinctly alutaceous and finely punctulate; sutural stria distinct and entire; color slightly paler than thorax. Abdomen very finely alutaceous, each segment with four punctures nearer the anterior margin. Body beneath colored as above. Length .10 inch; 2.5 mm.

A single specimen sent me among a number of other species in alcohol by Mr. Johnson Pettit, of Grimsby Ontario.

The species of this genus are all referred to *Eleusis*, Cast., Gemminger and Harold, Catalogus, p. 675, which has priority over *Isomalus*, Er., by five years and should be adopted, the name *Isomalus* being used in the present instance for convenience.

#### Descriptions of New Species of ELATERIDÆ, of the United States.

BY GEO. H. HORN, M. D.

##### **MERISTHUS**, Candeze.

**M. cristatus**, n. sp. pl. IV, fig. 2.—Pale testaceous. Head moderately convex rather densely clothed with whitish scales, vertex very slightly impressed. Antennæ testaceous, second joint one-half longer than the third, last joint large obliquely emarginate at apex. Thorax longer than broad gradually narrower in front, sides moderately rounded, slightly sinuate behind, hind angles nearly rectangular, anterior angles acute, disc of thorax convex, with transverse basal impression, and flattened in the region of the hinder angles, median line impressed, surface with sparsely placed whitish scales lateral margin distinctly crenulate. Scutellum oval with a strong crest along its middle. Elytra moderately convex, as wide as the thorax, with shallow striæ, intervals finely tuberculate, each tubercle bearing a whitish scale. Body beneath with whitish